ITAC Minutes for 1/20/04

1. Technology fee guidelines: Anthony Ianno provided information from the Board of Regents about how technology fees should be used. In addition, there is a new application form for projects requesting tech fee funds. This form may need to be slightly revised. Carl Mueller suggested that we should have Fall and Spring deadlines for considering projects. Gary Fisk thought that the midterm date would be a practical deadline that would be easy to remember. The committee generally felt that formalizing the application process and implementing a deadline would be good improvements.

2. Tech fee requests:

A. Jim Neale requested $20,000 for upgrading Imac computers in the SOE computer lab. The computers currently in the lab are 5 years old and in need of replacement. Chuck Lawson said that the SOE does a great job with this lab. Fisk noted that the quote included modems, which are not necessary. It was unclear if the $1000/computer quote was an academic price. The committee believes that this proposal has merit and recommends funding, but we should try to reduce the cost per machine by eliminating modems and getting an academic price.

B. Lucja Iwanska requested $10,000 for site license for a special programming environment. This programming language would be used in a number of computer science classes and for research projects that might involve collaboration with businesses outside of GSW. The committee questioned the $4000 requested for upgrades and support. Ianno noted that this was over 50% of the cost of the site license alone. It was unclear how long the upgrades would be provided. Iwanska will negotiate to get a better deal. The committee recommended funding, but asked that the $4000 budgeted for upgrades and support be reduced if possible.

C. Ianno is currently unclear how much money is left in the technology fee funds. It is also uncertain how much money will have to be allocated to student workers in computer labs for this semester. Thus, it may not be possible to fully fund both of the above projects. The committee gives Ianno discretion in funding the above projects, but they may need to be reduced in scope if there are insufficient funds.

3. Miscellaneous

A. Psychology/Sociology has a student who is paraplegic. He cannot currently use the computers in the Psy/Soc computer lab because his wheelchair will not fit under the desks. Fisk requested a computer desk for Mr. Hill that can accommodate people in wheel chairs. The funds for this desk will probably not come from the tech fee funds, as this is an ADA compliance issue.

B. Lawson suggested changing our discussion approach when people present their funding proposals. He asked that these presenters leave so that the committee can discuss funding in private. The committee agreed that this would put less pressure on the discussion process.

Attendance: Karen Cook, Nancy Morris, Lucja Iwanska, Anthony Ianno, Steve Galatas, Royce Hackett, Chuck Lawson, Gary Fisk, Carl Mueller, Mohammed Talukdar
Next meeting: February 10 at 3:30 in Morgan Hall. Please note that this is the second Tuesday of the month, which is a change that was made to accommodate Vera Weiskopf.